

The Daily Courant.

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THE Advices by every Mail shewing that Affairs in the Ferrareze draw nearer daily to an open War between the Emperour and the Pope, I think it not unreasonable to offer to the Publick a few Observations on a Subject which at present occasions so much and various Discourse; in Hope they may be serviceable in some little Measure to the common Cause. I am unwilling to run into long Digressions from the ordinary Business of this Paper, and therefore shall content my self with barely setting the Case in a due Light; chiefly by selecting and putting together certain Facts, which having been related at different and distant Times, and somewhat obscurely, in the common News-Papers, may have slip'd the Memory or left but slight Impressions on the Mind of most Readers, who not attending heedfully to the Thread of publick Occurrences, cannot at last wind the whole up together: Without which, 'tis impossible to form a sound Judgement of any Affair.

IF in any Case it can be deem'd the Pope's peculiar Office to judge of Temporal Affairs by Spiritual Rules, certainly never did any Question fall so properly under his Cognizance and require his impartial Judgment, as that of the Claims of the Houses of Austria and Bourbon to the Succession of the Spanish Monarchy. Nothing can be more apparent, than that the Pretensions of the House of Bourbon are built on the Breach of a Treaty and Renunciation which were founded on Oaths and Protections the most express and binding that human Reason could invent, or Reverence for the divine Majesty enforce. Before the Altar, in the (believ'd) real Presence of the Deity, in the most Sacred and plain Words, and with all the awful Ceremonies of Religion; with a great Concourse of Men, and all the Host of Heaven call'd to attest the solemn Act; did Lewis XIV Renounce and Disclaim for ever, for himself and his Posterity, the Spanish Succession. Yet did this Lewis, by Artifice and Fraud intrude his Grandson into the Throne of Spain. Other Potentates might take the Freedom to govern themselves by the Rules of human Policy, in the Point of acknowledging King Philip or not. But surely it became the Vicar of Jesus Christ, to weigh the Merits of a Cause that turn'd absolutely on the Question, whether in the coarsest Contempt of his divine Master, the most sacred Ties of his holy Religion might be broke through like Spiders Webs, and the most rever'd Rites of the Church prostituted to serve the basest human Ends; in short, whether downright Perjury and Possession fraudulently obtain'd could give Right. If the World might not require from the sanctity and Zeal of St. Peter's Successor, that he should have asserted the Cause of his God and his Religion; at least they might expect that human Modesty, sacerdotal Decency, and the Dignity of the Character of Common Father of the Church, would have kept him if not intirely neutral, at least from declaring in favour of the Party, which to his Spiritual Judgment, however it might be disguis'd to secular Eyes, must have appear'd to be most notoriously and detestably in the Wrong.

Yet, At the Time this Pope was advanc'd to the Apostolical Chair, the Duke of Anjou being on his Journey to Spain, wrote a Letter of Compliments to his Holyness from Bourdeaux, in the End of December 1700: This his Holyness answer'd so speedily as in the Beginning of the following February; and without longer hesitating on a Point of so much Importance, gave him the Style of Catholick King.

Had the Pretensions of the two Houses been in all Respects of equal or even disputable Validity, and difficult to decide; the World might in that Case expect that the holy Father would have had some Regard to the Personal Merits of his two contending Sons. The Emperour had all his Life carry'd himself affectionately and durifully to the holy See; the King of France had insulted it with the greatest Indignity. Never was a more brutal Contempt shewn of the Pope's Temporal Sovereignty and Authority, than by the Marquis de Lavardin Ambassador of France; who by his Master's Orders enter'd Rome with a numerous Arm'd Retinue as in Triumph whether Pope Innocent XI (whose Secretary the present Pope was) would or no; assum'd Exemption from his Holyness's Jurisdiction even under the Windows of his own Palace, in which he in a Manner believ'd him; and not only

raignty and the ordinary Exercise of his Authority over a great Part of the City of Rome it self. And as for the Spiritual Power of the Pope, never was so great a Blow offer'd to it since the Days of our Henry VIII, as by the Four Propositions of the Assembly of the Clergy of France. But in all Probability the very Crimes of the French King were his Merit in this Occasion, and those Actions of his shewing him not a little dispos'd to reject the Supremacy of the Bishop of Rome on any Provocation considerable enough to afford a plausible Pretext, mov'd the wary Pontiff to prefer his Interests to the Emperour's, who he knew must necessarily and would simply and heartily preserve his Respect for the Holy See notwithstanding all ill Usage. This is the Way of the World: Those of whom Men are jealous, they sooth; those whom they know must and will abide by them, they slight: And I wish it were not so visible, that a Nation may be ungenerously too much acted by that frail Principle.

But, to keep close to what I am about, The Pope's early and heady Acknowledgment of King Philip V has been the Root of more Mischief to the common Cause than is easy to imagine. And had he since given no open Instances of further Partiality; yet let any Man consider, the Bigotry of the Spanish Nation, the Numbers of Ecclesiasticks spread through that Country, and in all other Parts of the Spanish Dominions; let him also consider what a refin'd Machine the Romish Hierarchy is, how strong yet how secret its Wheels, how much yet how imperceptibly actuated by its Head; let him but add to this, the natural Impulse the Pope must feel, to promote for his own Sake the Party he had once unjustly own'd, that he might never fall under the Vengeance he must dread because so much deserv'd from the other should it prevail; I say let these Things be consider'd, and I presume no Man can doubt, that those who have had the Conduct of the Consciences of King Charles's Subjects, have made as dangerous a War against him, as those who have led his Enemy's Armies: Nor need I say with what Success, or if I needed them look far for Instances; The Loss of Ghent and Bruges flash it full in our Eyes.

But to go on with our Facts. Towards the End of 1701, his Holyness sent Cardinal Archinto as his Legate a Latere to Nice, to compliment the Consort of King Philip on her Marriage. And in 1702, King Philip coming to Naples, the Pope sent Cardinal Charles Barberini as his Legate a Latere with a Magnificent Retinue to compliment him there.

Upon Prince Eugene's great Successes in the beginning of the War in Italy, the Pope found it necessary to carry himself outwardly with all Indifference, with respect to the two Armies. But in June 1704, when the French had much the Superiority, and the Imperialists retir'd for their Security into the Ferrareze, whither the French follow'd them; the Pope declar'd he would Excommunicate those Troops of either Party, who should not retire out of his Territories. Hereupon the French march'd out of the Ferrareze, and 2 or 3 Days after the Imperialists did the like, on the Assurances given them on the Part of the Pope by Cardinal Astalli Legate of Ferrara, that the French should not return into it, and that his Troops should take Possession of all their Posts: But no sooner were the Imperialists gone, than Count Paulucci Brother of the Pope's Chief Minister, who commanded his Holyness's Forces, permitted the French, without any Resistance, to take Possession of the Posts they had quitte'd. By this Treachery the Imperialists being dispossest of the advantageous Post of Figarola in particular, could no longer defend Ostiglia, and maintain themselves on the lower Po; but in Consequence were soon after forc'd to quit all Lombardy and retire into the Trentin. The Motives which induc'd the Pope to use this unfair Conduct towards the Imperialists in the Ferrareze, were, not only their weak Condition; but at the same Time the Duke of Savoy was hard put to it in Piemont by the Duke of Vendome; and in Germany the Elector of Bavaria and the Marshal de Tallard had joyn'd; so that his Holyness had no little Cause to think the French would carry all before them: And indeed, nothing but the most seasonable and happy Victory of Blenheim, could have retriev'd the visibly sinking Cause of the Allies. But (leaving this seeming Digression as to his Holyness's Motives) I must observe in Fact, that he did not Excommunicate the French Troops on this Occasion, as according to his previous Threats he ought: however liberal he has

To proceed, The Pope has not only all along favour'd Philip V, in Matters of Compliment; but has done him most essential and solid Services, By recommending his Interests in Letters expressly written to the Clergy of Spain, (which thing alone must have been of mighty Benefit to him;) by readily allowing and confirming his Nomination to Bishopricks and other Ecclesiastical Benefices, not only in Spain, but in Naples and the State of Milan while they were in his Possession, (which Desposal of Ecclesiastical Preferments, we in England are I think pretty well qualified to judge is of no little Advantage to any Prince;) and by authorizing him to raise by a Tax on the Clergy of his Dominions the Tenth of their Revenues.

Such, in general, has been the Pope's Carriage towards the House of Bourbon: Now let us see how he has treated that of Austria in Cases nearly parallel; for to enumerate others would lead me too far.

He not only refus'd in 1734 to let the Imperial Ambassador at his Court, the Count de Lamberg, put up the Picture of Charles III, as Archduke only, in his own Palace; but since the Milanese came under the Obedience of that Monarch, as well by Virtue of a Treaty with France as by Arms, will not suffer his Picture as King to be put up in the Church of St. Carlo al Corso.

His Holyness refus'd to send any Legate a Latere, or other Person, to compliment the Bride of King Charles in her Passage through Italy.

He excommunicated the Emperor's Officers for levying Contributions in the Imperial Fees of Parma and Piacenza, which the French had before for a long time ravag'd impunibly.

He multiplied Difficulties, and made tedious Delays, before he would allow King Charles III the Nomination to Benefices in the Countries which have been reduc'd to his Obedience: And all the while was influencing the Clergy to pervert the Minds of the People, and sap the Foundations of all Loyalty to their lawful King. This appearing but too plainly; and even that his Catholick Majesty's said Subjects were perpetually incited to an open Revolt, by Ecclesiasticks who have large Benefices and Pensions in Naples and the Milanese and reside at Rome, 'twas found necessary to Sequester very lately the Revenues of those absent Ecclesiasticks, that his Catholick Majesty might be no longer disserv'd and betray'd by those who ow'd, some to his beneficent Protection, others even to his Munificence, the Means of doing him Mischief.

Lastly, For a convincing Proof of the Pope's Partiality; his Holyness was pleas'd to own signally his Engagements with the House of Bourbon, and his Designs against the House of Austria and the Common Cause, by ordering publick Prayers and Processions (assisting at them himself,) to implore from Heaven good Success to the Expedition of the Pretender to Scotland, which would have ruin'd the Alliance, and given the fatal Blow to the Liberties of Europe. Those Devotions were certainly perform'd, beyond all Dispute: But that he furnish'd Money towards the Charge of that Expedition, is not so easy for me to prove, as 'tis reasonable for all the World to suspect from his constant inveterate Conduct towards the House of Austria.

And thus I am brought to the True Cause of the present open Variance between the Emperor and the Pope.

His Imperial Majesty and his Brother King Charles endur'd with great Patience the notorious Partiality of his Holyness for the House of Bourbon during this War, tho' that Partiality was of infinite Prejudice to their Affairs and in Consequence to the Common Cause. But this last Proceeding of his, in Relation to the Expedition to Scotland, did not only most sensibly affect them and the Duke of Savoy (against whose just Pretensions in Ecclesiastical Affairs within his own Dominions the Pope had fulminated his Censures;) but was resent'd with due Indignation by the Court of Great Britain. In a Word, at the Solicitations of that Court, the Emperor was determin'd, in Concert with the Duke of Savoy, to revive his old Pretensions to Comacchio; in Order to check the Petulancy of the Roman Pontiff; to obtain some Satisfaction for the Injuries the House of Austria and its Allies have receiv'd from him; and oblige him to enter into such Measures, with respect to the unquestionable Rights and present Acquisitions of his Catholick Majesty, as the Equity of the particular Case, the general Reason of Things, and the Peace and Welfare of Naples and the Milanese with the firm Establishment of the Authority of their lawful Sovereign, do justly and necessarily require. And tho' the Pope has caus'd his Troops and Subjects to draw the first Blood in the Terrazze, yet his Imperial Majesty choosing rather the Way of Negotiation than of the Sword, has sent Order to the Marquis de Prié, a Piemontese Lord, to go to Rome, and learn plainly from the Pope himself, whether he will have Peace or War, which are absolutely at his own Choice. In the

mean time, the good Disposition of the Emperor and the Duke of Savoy, are evident from this, that the repeated Orders sent since the Expedition against Scotland to Sir John Leake, to be executed on the Coast of Civita Vecchia by the Brittish Squadron in the Mediterranean, have not been thus long suspended, but at his Imperial Majesty's and his Royal Highness's Instance and Request, that it may first be seen whether the Pope will absolutely reject the Negotiation offer'd on the Part of his Imperial Majesty.

I think myself very fortunate, that while I am saying the Emperor and the Duke of Savoy were animated by the Court of Great Britain to call the Pope to some Account for the great Disservices he has all this War been doing to them and their Allies, and to prevent his going on in the same unjust Way, I am also able to say, That by the Reduction of the Islands of Sardinia and Minorca since this Affair was set on Foot, and the sending Sir George Byng with so strong a Squadron to the Mediterranean to relieve Sir John Leake, they have demonstrated their sincere Resolutions to support his Imperial Majesty in this Quarrel. And as for my own Part I am very far from desiring that this War (if the Pope will have it one) should be push'd on to great Extremities; so no Man can doubt, that Great Britain, and Holland (whence also a good Squadron will soon be sent to the Mediterranean,) whose Equity and Moderation are as resplendent as their naval Powers are formidable; will easily satisfy the Potentates of Italy, (with whom they have no inconsiderable mutual Interests,) that no more is intended, or shall be done, than to bring the Pope to agree to such fair and reasonable Conditions, as are indispensibly necessary for the grand Alliance to require of him.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, this present Tuesday, being the 26th of October, will be presented, a Comedy, call'd, *The Relapse: Or, Virtue in Danger.* The Parts of Lord Foppington performed by Mr. Gibber, Sir Tunbelly Clumsey by Mr. Bullock, Y. Fashion by Mrs. Kent, Loveless by Mr. Wilks, Worthy by Mr. Mills, Lory by Mr. Penkethman, Amanda by Mrs. Rogers, Berinthia by Mrs. Knight, Miss Hoyden by Mrs. Cross: And all the other Parts to the best Advantage.

A strong gray Mare, fit to carry 14 Stone a Hunting, perfectly sound, trots very easy, and gallops well; now in good Order for present Use: Is to be sold, and may be seen any Day at Mr. Allens Stables in Spring Garden over against the Bull-head Tavern at Charing-Cross.

AN Entertainment by Mr. CLINCH of BARNET, who imitates the Flute, Double Curtell, the Organ with 3 Voices, the Horn, Huntsman and Pack of Hounds, the Sham-Doctor, the Old Woman, the Drunken Man, the Bells: All Instruments are perform'd by his natural Voice. To be seen this present Evening at 7 a Clock at the Three Tun Tavern in West-Smithfield. Price 1 s.

Dropt on Saturday Night the 23d Instant, between the Blue-Coat Coffee-house near the Royal Exchange and Mr. John Mead's Merchant in Basinghall-street, between 10 and 11 a Clock at Night, a Parchment Deed of Sale for one Quarter Part of a Ship, belonging to the said Mr. John Mead. Whoever brings it to the said John Mead, shall have a Guinea Reward.

JOSHUA FEARY, ROBERT CARR, and HOW LOWFIELD, Mercers, Remov'd from the Wheat Sheaf by the Bell-Savage-Inn on Ludgate-Hill, to the Wheat Sheaf and Star 6 Doors higher on the same side of the Way nearer Ludgate.

In a Court at the upper-end of Bread street next Cheapside, is a very good House to be Let, 2 Rooms on a Floor, with large Closets, fronting the Court, the House in good Repair and newly Sash'd. Inquire at Steel's Coffee-house in the same Court.

By J. Hodgson and F. Hauksbee, a Course of Experiments in order to Demonstrate the Laws of the Gravitation of Fluids, the various Properties of the Air in relation to its Weight, Spring, Necessity of its Presence in the Conservation of Life, and Production of Flame and Sound. Together with several new Experiments touching Light and Electricity. Will begin this Day the 26th Instant, at 6 a Clock in the Evening, at Mr. Hauksbee's in Wine-Office-Court, Fleetstreet, and be continu'd every Friday and Tuesday following till finish'd. Where Subscriptions are taken in, and printed Accounts of the whole are given.

At Grigsby's Coffee-house in Threadneedle-street near the Royal Exchange, this Day the 26th Instant, at 5 in the Evening, will continue to be Sold by Auction a curious Collection of Choice and Valuable Books, beginning with Number 100. Page 4. in the English Folio's, in Divinity, History, Travels, Novels, Plays, &c. Being the Library of an eminent Merchant lately deceas'd. By T. Ballard, Bookseller. Catalogues may be had at Mr. Brown's without Temple-Bar, Mr. Clement's in St. Paul's Church-yard, Mr. Aylmer's in Cornhill, Booksellers, and at the Place of Sale, where the Books may be seen.

FOR SALE BY THE CANDLE.

To Morrow the 27th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, at 4 a Clock, 69 small Pieces of extraordinary Cogniac Brandy, neat, intire and full proof, and 9 small Pieces of Superfine Fenouillet, from North-Britain, just landed, lying in a Cellar under the 2d Gateway of Custom-house-Key, Thames-street; and 14 Pieces of new Lemon-Juice, and 3 Chests of Citron, in a Warehouse on the Left Hand upper end of an Alley in Cox-Key near London-Bridge. To be seen all this Day and to Morrow, till the Hour of Sale. Sold by T. Tomkins Broker in Crouched Fryars near Tower-hill.

These are to give notice to all Gentlemen, that at the Grecian Coffee-house in Devereux-Court near the Temple you may be furnish'd with the best Lux Oyl at 8 s. the Gallon, true Bordeaux Wine at 3 s. the Dozen, and 3 s. abated when the Bottles are return'd, and all sorts of rich Wine clean and neat, at very reasonable Prices.

Moral Reflections in a Real Dream. Printed for Samuel Crouch in Pope's-Head-Alley, Cornhill. Price 2 d.